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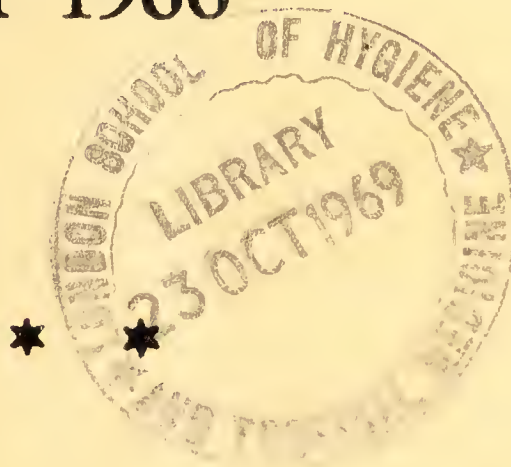


ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for 1966



RIVER BLYTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY



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RIVER BLYTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Port Medical Officer of Health

for YEAR 1966

WATERLOO HOUSE,
WATERLOO ROAD,
BLYTH.

January, 1967.

To the Chairman and Members of the River Blyth Port Health Authority.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again it is my privilege to place before you the Annual Report on the work of the Port Health Administration for the Port of Blyth, for the year 1966.

As in preceding years this report is presented in accordance with the instructions issued by the Minister of Health—Form Port 20, and Circular 33/52. Detailed information will be found in the Sections I to XVI.

The total number of vessels which arrived during the year was 2,164 including Fishing Vessels. This is slightly below last year's figure. Foreign Vessels trading Foreign and Coastwise numbered 545 including Fishing Vessels, which is an increase on last year. The number of arrivals direct from Foreign Ports was substantially the same.

The amount of Coal and Coke shipped from the Port during the year was 3,303,304 tons; this also includes Bunker Coal.

The reduction in coal shipments has been mainly due to the increased consumption by the Power Station and the seven weeks seamen's strike in the early summer when there was very little export at all.

Imports discharged at the Port were: Timber 29,022 loads, Iron 4,389 tons, Roofing Tiles 1,084 tons, Fertiliser 2,110 tons and Sundries 2,608 tons.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

The above Regulations became operative from the 1st October, 1952, and deal with the Infectious Diseases, now to be known as Quarantinable Diseases, sanitary control of ships and persons, Deratting Certificates, etc. Certificates issued will be found in the appropriate Tables.

INSPECTION OF VESSELS

The work dealing with nuisances and defects (structural and otherwise) will be found in the appropriate tables included in the report.

I again record with pleasure the kind assistance received from time to time from the Blyth Harbour Commission, River Pilots, H.M. Customs Officers, Immigration Officer, also the Ministry of Transport Surveyors for their help and co-operation with the staff of the Port Health Authority.

R. J. P. R. CAMPBELL, M.B., Ch.B.,
Medical Officer of Health.

RIVER BLYTH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

MEMBERS OF AUTHORITY AT 31st DECEMBER, 1966

Chairman: COUNCILLOR J. HUDSPITH

Vice-Chairman: COUNCILLOR A. H. PAYNE

ALDERMAN A. RUTHERFORD, J.P.

COUNCILLOR J. HAIG

ALDERMAN MRS. L. M. SUMMERS

COUNCILLOR M. A. MCGUCKIN

ALDERMAN A. WALTON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR MRS. A. M. MOCKETT

COUNCILLOR E. BREADIN

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. PURVES

COUNCILLOR G. COLPITTS

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. E. THOMPSON

SECTION I—STAFF

Table A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other Appointment held
MISS L. OWEN ...	Clerk to the Authority	11th Sept., 1960	A.C.I.S.	Town Clerk's Staff, Borough of Blyth
DR. R. J. P. R. CAMPBELL ...	Medical Officer of Health	1st October, 1949	M.B., Ch.B.	General Practice
DR. R. CRAIG ...	Deputy Medical Officer of Health	1st April 1957	M.B., Ch.B.	General Practice
MR. NORMAN F. GODFREY ...	Public Health Inspector	1st February, 1957	Public Health Inspectors' Certificate R.S.I. Meat and Food Cert. R.S.I.	None
MR. ROBERT H. CRAMP ...	Rodent Officer	11th January, 1952		None
MISS M. WALKER ...	Office Clerk	1st March, 1965		None

Dr. R. J. P. R. Campbell's address :—Waterloo House, Waterloo Road, Blyth, Northumberland.
Telephone No. BLYTH 3226

SECTION II

Amount of Shipping entering the District during the year

Table B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number of Ships reported as having or having had during the voyage Infectious Diseases on board
			By the M.O.H.	By the Public Health Inspector	
Foreign Ports ...	86	35,882	24	86	—
Coastwise Ports ...	1,737	1,399,504.98	46	1,737	—
TOTALS ...	1,823	1,435,386.98	70	1,823	—

FISHING VESSELS—				No.	Tonnage
Foreign	...	...	...	336	15,524
Coastwise	...	...	...	5	121

Crews

Foreign	Coastwise	Fishing	Total
860	24,431	3,139	28,430

SECTION III
Character of Shipping and Trade during the year 1966
Table C

		British	Alien	Common-wealth
Passenger Traffic ...	Number of Passengers INWARDS ...	10	14	Nil
	Number of Passengers OUTWARDS ...	21	19	3
	Passengers on Temporary Shore Leave...	Nil	Nil	Nil

There is no regular passenger traffic at this Port (See table for Aliens).

Cargo Traffic ...	Principal Imports ...	Mining Timber ...	18,050 tons
		Other Timber ...	10,972 „
		Iron ...	4,389 „
		Roofing Tiles ...	1,084 „
		Fertiliser ...	2,110 „
		Sundry ...	2,608 „
		Coal and Coke (Cargo) ...	3,284,318 „
	Principal Exports ...	Coal (Bunkers) ...	18,986 „
		Fuel Oil (Bunkers) ...	3,707 „
		Sundry ...	1,877 „
		Barley ...	17,274 „

Fish landed was valued at £25,565.

Principal Ports from which Ships arrive:—

FOREIGN PORTS—

BELGIUM	...	Antwerp, Brussels, Ghent, Ostend, Zeebrugge.
DENMARK	...	Aalvik, Copenhagen, Esbjerg, Marstal, Svendborg, Veijle.
FAEROES	...	Klaksvik, Thorshavn.
FINLAND	...	Kemi, Lapaluoto, Lovisa, Mo-i-Rana, Ramvik, Toppila, Vasa, Ventspils, Yxpila.
FRANCE	...	Nantes, Rouen.
GERMANY	...	Brake, Bremen, Cuxhaven, Elmshorn, Flensburg, Hamburg, Haren-Ems, Itzehoe, Oldenburg, Rendsburg, Stade, Ulsnis.
GREECE	...	Piraeus.
HOLLAND	...	Amsterdam, Appingdam, Delfzijl, Groningen, Harlingen, Hoogkirk, Joure, Katwijk, Leeuwarden, Scheveningen Voorthuizen, Ymuiden, Zaandam, Zwartsluis.
ICELAND	...	Reykjavik.
ITALY	...	Rome.
NORWAY	...	Bergen, Haugesund, Odda, Oslo, Trollhattan, Wismar.
PANAMA	...	Panama.
POLAND	...	Gdansk, Gdynia, Stettin, Swinouisce, Wladyslawawa.
PORTUGAL	...	Leixoes, Lisbon, Setubal.
SPAIN	...	Aguilas, Barcelona, Bilbao, Cartagena, Valencia.
SWEDEN	...	Bjornholm, Goteborg, Halmstad, Karlskrona, Karlstad, Kristinstad, Kristinhamn, Nykoping.
U.S.S.R.	...	Leningrad.

SECTION IV

Inland Barge Traffic

There is no barge traffic at the Port.

SECTION V

Water Supply

Samples have been taken regularly from points on the West Staithes, North and South Sides, South Harbour and B.C.H. Waterboat. Of the 75 samples taken from the Port, 1 after bacteriological examination was found to be unsatisfactory. Of the 75 samples taken from vessels in the Port, 1 was found to be unsatisfactory.

In all cases where Unsatisfactory Reports have been received, remedial measures have been taken and check samples taken later have shown the supply to be satisfactory. In instances where unsatisfactory reports have come from vessels, the fresh water tanks have been cleaned out and in some instances the fresh water systems thoroughly overhauled, with satisfactory results in all cases.

SECTION VI

Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952

No change.

SECTION VII

Smallpox

1.—The Northern Regional Hospitals Board have made arrangements for the admission of Smallpox cases to the Langley Park Isolation Hospital, Co. Durham (Telephone No.: Chester-le-Street 3207). The Doctor in Charge of this hospital will be Dr. Gavin Millar, of Green Ridge, Farnley Mount, Durham. His Telephone No. is 2395.

2.—The Northumberland County Council are responsible for the ambulance service. Dr. A. Donaldson, the Medical Officer for the Blyth and Bedlington Local Authorities, is responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

3.—NAME OF SMALLPOX CONSULTANT AVAILABLE :—

DR. WILSON MINNS,
South Rigg, Humshaugh,
Hexham.
Home Telephone No.:
Humshaugh 317.

4.—FACILITIES FOR LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS OF SMALLPOX. Laboratory facilities are provided at the General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4

SECTION VIII

Venereal Disease

No change.

SECTION IX

Cases of notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on ships.

Table D

Category	Disease	Number of Cases during the year		Number of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from Foreign Ports	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports, but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION X

Observation on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships

No cases of Malaria have been reported during the year.

SECTION XI

Measures taken against Ships infected with or suspected of Plague

Inquiries as to the prevalence of rats are made on all ships in Port (whether in possession of Deratting Certificates or Deratting Exemption Certificates or not) and a systematic inspection is carried out on all ships arriving directly or otherwise from foreign ports.

A systematic search for evidence of infestation is carried out on all vessels.

SECTION XII

Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports

1.—On arrival at the Port vessels are examined and if there is any evidence of rats notice is at once served on the Master. The Port Health Authority have their own official Rodent Operator. Particular attention is given to vessels arriving directly or indirectly from infected areas.

2.—Rats when caught are examined and facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne, for detailed bacteriological examination of any specimens when necessary.

3.—For some years now there has been no instance of a major infestation of rats on any vessel to the extent of requiring wholesale fumigation. If any such instance occurred, the shipping agents would arrange for the fumigation to be carried out by one of the approved firms mentioned below. The whole process would be supervised by Officers of the Authority.

In the case of fumigation by Hydrogen Cyanide or Methyl Bromide, strict precautions have to be observed to safeguard all the persons involved and the whole process carried out in accordance with the Regulations.

Contractors approved for the carrying out of the above services in this Port are:—

MESSRS. CONTRA PEST SERVICES LTD.,
Rekendyke Lane,
South Shields.
Tel. No.: South Shields 63388.

MESSRS. RENTOKIL LABORATORIES LTD.,
556 Regent Street,
South Shields.
Tel. No.: South Shields 4921.

4.—In the Construction of modern vessels considerable progress has been made in the provision of rat-proof compartments. Bulkheads and partitions are usually steel, and with a minimum of timber, it is difficult for rodents to find harbourage. Modern Naval Architecture is coping with the problem satisfactorily.

Table E
Rodents destroyed during the year in Ships from Foreign Ports

Category	Number
Black Rats	—
Brown Rats	—
Species not known	—
Sent for examination	—
Infected with Plague ...	—

The total number of brown rats recovered from the Quayside after poison baits have been put down was 419.

All rats recovered are examined and where any abnormalities are noted are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne, for further detailed examination.

Table F
Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year 1966 for Ships from Foreign Ports

No. of Deratting Certificates issued					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After Fumigation with		After Trapping	After Poisoning	Total		
HCN	Other Fumigant (state method)					
—	—	—	—	—	9	9

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year 1966

Net Tonnage	No. of Ships	No. of Deratting Certificates issued				No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
		After Fumigation with			After Trapping, Poisoning, etc.		
		HCN	Sulphur	HCN and Sulphur			
Ships up to 300 tons ...	23	—	—	—	—	23	23
Ships from 300 tons to 1,000 tons	27	—	—	—	—	27	27
Ships from 1,001 tons to 3,000 tons ...	23	—	—	—	—	23	23
Ships from 3,001 tons to 10,000 tons ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ships over 10,000 tons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	73	—	—	—	—	73	73

SECTION XIII
Inspection of Ships for Nuisances

Table G
Inspection and Notices

Nature and Number of Inspections				Notices Served		Result of Serving Notices
				Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Routine Inspections	...	S/S	438	Nil	156	Defects remedied
Do.	...	M/V	1,385	Do.	92	Do.
Do.	...	F/V	341	Do.	—	Do.
TOTAL	...		2,164	Do.	248	—

SECTION XIV
Public Health (Shell-fish Regulations) 1934 and 1948

No change.

SECTION XV
Medical Inspection of Aliens

This is not an approved Port for the landing or inspection of Aliens.

The number of Aliens who arrived at the Port was 14 (See Table C, Section III).

SECTION XVI
Miscellaneous

Mortuary—No change.

Food Inspection—

The export of Barley this year increased almost six-fold with promise of much more quantities for the ensuing year. Most of this goes for animal feeding but a certain amount of Barley was imported for use by the local breweries. Strict supervision is given to these cargoes and every precaution is taken in respect of possible rodent or other contamination.

NATIONALITIES OF SHIPS

British	...	...	...	...	1,614
Danish	...	...	...	...	16
Dutch	...	...	...	...	98
Faeroes	...	...	...	...	3
German	...	...	...	...	72
Greek	...	...	...	...	1
Icelandic	...	...	...	...	1
Finnish	...	...	...	...	2
Norwegian	...	...	...	...	11
Panamanian	...	...	...	...	2
Spanish	...	...	...	...	1
Swedish	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL					1,823

FISHING VESSELS

Dutch	...	...	...	...	37
Polish	...	...	.	...	297
British	...	...	...	...	5
West German	...	...	...	...	2
TOTAL					341
GRAND TOTAL FOR THE YEAR ...					2,164

VESSELS BOARDED

The following tables give a list of vessels boarded during the year by the Medical Officer of Health or Public Health Inspector on account of disease on board during the voyage or whilst in Port. All cases set out below received attention and treatment.

Date	Name of Vessel and Nationality	Where from	Rating	Sickness
9.1.66	M.V. Sonority (British)	Norwich	Master	Influenza
12.1.66	M.V. St. Aidan (British)	Dundalk	Master	Chest Pains
12.1.66	M.V. St. Aidan (British)	Dundalk	Engineer	Accident to knee
21.1.66	S.S. Cormain (British)	London	Seaman	Dental Abscess
27.1.66	S.S. Cormount (British)	London	Seaman	Accident to back
1.2.66	M.V. Balmoral Queen (British)	Cowes	Seaman	Head injuries
2.2.66	M.V. Corbrae (British)	London	2nd Mate	Accident to leg
4.2.66	M.V. Cardiffbrook (British)	London	Seaman	Influenza
25.2.66	M.V. St. Aidan (British)	Dublin	3 Seamen	Influenza
2.3.66	S.S. Cormist (British)	London	Fireman Bosun	C.O.2 Poisoning
10.4.66	M.V. David M. (British)	London	Engineer	C.O. Poisoning (died)
18.4.66	M.V. Corstar (British)	London	A.B.	Accident to ankle
18.4.66	M.V. Antelope (Dutch)	Grangemouth	Master	Accident to hand
7.5.66	M.V. Ingrid R. (German)	Hull	Seaman	Accident to hand
24.7.66	S.S. Lady Charington (British)	London	A.B.	Accident to foot
31.7.66	M.V. Daniel M. (British)	Norwich	Master	Tonsillitis
7.8.66	M.V. Dina (Dutch)	Snodland	Mate	Ear infection
11.9.66	S.S. Ivar (Panamanian)	Yxpila	Seaman	Accident to hand
10.10.66	M.V. Corsea (British)	London	Seaman	Boils
26.10.66	M.V. Horso (Norwegian)	Mo-i-rana	Seaman	Accident
4.11.66	S.S. Hudson Firth (British)	London	Engineer	Septic hand
16.11.66	M.V. Craigmore (British)	Belfast	Engineer Seaman	Influenza
8.12.66	M.V. Agua (Dutch)	Strood	Seaman	Dental Abscess

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951

Thirteen Rodent Control Certificates were issued during the year.

The charges for the issue of Deratting and Deratting Exemption Certificates were increased from 1st September, 1961, so that some coasting vessels have requested to be issued with Rodent Control Certificates. This latter type of Certificate is not valid outside British waters.

VESSELS FOUND HAVING STRUCTURAL OR SANITARY DEFECTS

	Structural Defects		Sanitary Defects		TOTAL
	Foreign	Coastwise	Foreign	Coastwise	
British Steam	—	13	2	113	128
British Motor	3	9	6	62	80
British Sail	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign Steam	—	3	—	25	28
Foreign Motor	—	2	5	5	12
Foreign Sail	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	3	27	13	205	248

It was not found necessary to carry out any disinfestations of crews' quarters on vessels during the year.

DEFECTS

	Work in hand	Work completed	Total
Fresh water tanks repaired or renewed	—	4	4
Fresh water tanks cleaned and cement washed	—	14	14
Fresh water systems repaired or renewed	—	7	7
Hot water system provided	—	1	1
Sanitary tanks repaired or renewed	—	4	4
Sanitary pipes repaired or renewed	—	4	4
Hot water systems repaired or renewed	—	5	5
W.C.'s discharging on to quay	—	9	9
W.C.'s repaired or renewed	—	10	10
Wash basins repaired or renewed	—	6	6
Wash up sinks repaired or renewed	—	2	2
Showers repaired or renewed	—	8	8
Central heating stoves repaired	—	4	4
Central heating systems repaired	—	13	13
Crews' accommodation cleaned and painted out	—	10	10
Officers accommodation cleaned and painted out	—	6	6
Leaking accommodation repaired	—	2	2
Calleys cleaned and painted out	—	14	14
Galley stoves repaired or renewed	—	9	9
Galley equipment repaired or renewed	—	10	10
Galley benches renewed	—	3	3
Refrigerators cleaned out	—	10	10
Refrigerators repaired or renewed	—	5	5
Food stores cleaned out	—	13	13
Scupper pipes cleared	—	13	13
Scupper pipes repaired or renewed	—	8	2
Port lights repaired or renewed	—	32	8
Gas water heater overhauled	—	1	32
Refuse deposited on to quay	—	7	1
Smoke emissions	—	2	7
Ventilating systems repaired or renewed	—	10	10
Lighting repaired	—	2	2
TOTALS	—	248	248

VESSELS ARRIVING FROM INFECTED OR SUSPECTED PORTS

The following table gives the number of vessels boarded in Blyth by the Officers of the Port Health Authority, on account of them coming directly or indirectly from Foreign Ports, infected or suspected of being infected with Cholera, Plague, Yellow Fever, Typhus Fever or Relapsing Fever.

1966	From Infected Ports to Blyth		From Suspected Ports to Blyth		TOTAL
	Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect	
January	—	—	—	—	—
February	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	—	—	—	—
May	—	—	—	—	—
June	—	—	—	—	—
July	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	—	—
September	—	—	—	—	—
October	—	—	—	—	—
November	—	—	—	—	—
December	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	—	—	—	—	—

FOOD INSPECTION

The Principal Acts of Parliament and the Regulations affecting the work of the Authority are :—

Local Government Act, 1933.

Public Health Act, 1936.

Public Health Officers (Port Health Districts) Regulations, 1959

Merchant Shipping (Crew Accommodation) Regulations, 1953.

Dangerous Drugs Regulations, 1964.

Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926.

Preservatives in Food Regulations, 1962.

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and 1948.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—1952.

Food and Drugs (Whalemeat) Regulations, 1960—1961.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Antioxidant in Food Regulations, 1958.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960—1961.

Food Hygiene (Docks, Carriers, etc.) Regulations, 1960.

Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1957.

Arsenic in Food Regulations, 1959—1960.

Fluorine in Food Regulations, 1959.

Labelling of Food Order, 1953.

Lead in Food Regulations, 1961.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

Mineral Hydrocarbons in Food Regulations, 1964.

Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952—1963.

Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1953.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 and 1954.

Poisons Rules, 1960.

Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Ships) Regulations, 1951.

Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951.

Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) (Amendment No. 2) Order, 1956

The Poisons (Fluoroacetamide and Fluoroacetanilide) Rules, 1964.

Clean Air Act, 1956.

Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) (Vessels) Regulations, 1958.



G.R. & Co.,
Bedlington and Blyth.